Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, Ole Edvart Rolvaag was born April 22, 1876, in a small village just south of where the Arctic Circle cuts the coast of Norway; and,

WHEREAS, Longing for the unknown and the untried, Rolvaag left the fishing fleets of his forefathers and journied to faraway South Dakota; and,

WHEREAS, After farming for three years in South Dakota, Rolvaag attended Augustana College, a preparatory school in Canton, graduating in the spring of 1901; and,

WHEREAS, Rolvaag's novels, written in Norwegian, are dedicated to the people who took part in the great land-taking and home-founding in America; and,

WHEREAS, Rolvaag's works tell with simple human detail the grim reality of pioneering in a strange land; and,

WHEREAS, The Nordland Heritage Foundation is hosting the dedication of a Highway Historic Marker near Elk Point on November 1 in honor of Ole Rolvaag:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim Sunday, November 1, 1981, as

OLE ROLVAAG DAY

In South Dakota, and I respectfully urge my fellow South Dakotans to become more familiar with the life and works of this giant of pioneer literature, whose writings stand as a monument to the contributions of his people to South Dakota life and culture.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-first Day of October, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-One

WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

ALICE KUNDERT, SECRETARY OF STATE